

NCA
VOC FOR IOP/FN
NEWS ANALYSIS NO. 1-0583
CHARLES MEDD

APRIL 16, 1976

ELECTION '76: THE PENNSYLVANIA SHOWDOWN
///THE FOLLOWING ANALYSIS SERVES AS A SHORTER
VERSION OF SPECIAL FEATURE 3-3251: "ELECTION 76:
PENNSYLVANIA PREVIEW."///

ANNCR:

THE NEXT PRESIDENTIAL PRIMARY WILL BE HELD APRIL
TWENTY-SEVENTH IN THE NORTHEASTERN INDUSTRIAL STATE OF
PENNSYLVANIA. CHARLES MEDD EXPLAINS WHY THIS ELECTION
COULD BE A CRITICAL ONE FOR THE DEMOCRATS.

VOICE:

THE LATEST GALLUP POLL SHOWS THAT FOR THE FIRST TIME
JIMMY CARTER IS THE FAVORITE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE AMONG
DEMOCRATIC VOTERS. THAT'S NOT SURPRISING, GIVEN MISTER
CARTER'S REMARKABLE SUCCESS IN THE EARLY PREFERENCE PRIMARIES
AND THE FACT THAT VOTERS, LIKE RACE-TRACK BETTORS, ARE DRAWN
TO WINNERS. IT'S ALSO NO SURPRISE THAT THE SUDDEN EMERGENCE
OF THE FORMER GEORGIA GOVERNOR AS THE PARTY'S FRONT-RUNNER
IS A SOURCE OF CONCERN TO OTHER DEMOCRATS WHO WOULD PREFER A
MORE FAMILIAR FACE.

BUT A GROWING NUMBER OF DEMOCRATS, AND MORE NEUTRAL
OBSERVERS AS WELL, ARE COMING TO BELIEVE THAT UNLESS MISTER
CARTER IS SOON STOPPED, HIS WILL BECOME THE MOST FAMILIAR
FACE OF ALL. THE PLACE THEY SAY HE MUST BE STOPPED IS
PENNSYLVANIA, A BIG INDUSTRIAL STATE WHERE MOST OF THE PARTY
PROFESSIONALS AND MUCH OF ORGANIZED LABOR IS PREPARING TO DO
JUST THAT. ON APRIL TWENTY-SEVENTH THEY HOPE TO ELECT
DELEGATES TO THE PARTY'S NOMINATING CONVENTION WHO ARE
OPENLY COMMITTED TO SENATOR HENRY JACKSON OR PRIVATELY
COMMITTED TO SENATOR HUMBERT HUMPHREY, WHILE SENATOR HUMPHREY
IS NOT AN ACTIVE CANDIDATE, HIS SUPPORTERS IN PENNSYLVANIA

BELIEVE HE WILL BE BY THE TIME THE DEMOCRATS HOLD THEIR CONVENTION IN JULY.

THE PARTY PROFESSIONALS AND THEIR LABOR ALLIES ARE CONFIDENT THEY WILL ELECT A STATE DELEGATION THAT IS BASICALLY FRIENDLY TO BOTH JACKSON AND HUMPHREY. BUT WHETHER THEY SUCCEED OR NOT COULD BE ERASED BY ANOTHER FACTOR IN THE PENNSYLVANIA PRIMARY. FOR IN ADDITION TO ELECTING CONVENTION DELEGATES, THE VOTERS WILL EXPRESS THEIR CHOICE FOR THE PARTY'S NOMINATION. THE RESULTS OF THE POPULARITY CONTEST, ALTHOUGH NOT BINDING ON THE DELEGATES, ARE WHAT THE VOTERS IN PENNSYLVANIA AND OTHER STATES WILL BE WATCHING.

THE VOTE IN THE POPULARITY CONTEST IS EXPECTED TO BE DIVIDED BETWEEN THE THREE LEADING ACTIVE CANDIDATES -- SENATOR JACKSON, WHO HAS LABOR'S SUPPORT, CONGRESSMAN MORRIS UDALL, WHO HAS A SUBSTANTIAL FOLLOWING AMONG LIBERALS, AND JIMMY CARTER, WHOSE SUPPORT IS HARD TO DEFINE BUT, AS THE GALLOP POLL SUGGESTS, IS CLEARLY RISING.

IF THE PENNSYLVANIA VOTE RESULTS IN A VIRTUAL STAND-OFF BETWEEN THESE THREE CANDIDATES, MOST OBSERVERS FEEL THE REAL WINNER WILL BE HUBERT HUMPHREY. BUT IF JIMMY CARTER WINS IN THIS IMPORTANT INDUSTRIAL STATE, THESE SAME OBSERVERS ARE LIKELY TO CONCLUDE THAT THE NOMINATION IS ALL BUT HIS.

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JS/RTD